

## MARCH 2020

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### You've Got Purpose. Do You Have Direction?

Someone once said, "If you aim at nothing, you'll hit it every time." Well, that's a cute saying, but sadly it can become a true commentary of our lives. While we ought to be on guard against selfish ambition (James 3:14-16), we also ought to be on guard against idleness with our faith (2 Thess. 3:11; 1 Tim 5:13). I suspect some in the church aren't sure what they should do to be a good follower of Jesus. The elders have outlined some tangible goals to help us focus our lives, and give direction to our attempts to help others follow Christ. Below I will describe the first level.

The **objective of the first level (of four) is to get established in the foundational disciplines of the Christian life. The target is the heart.** This is where we choose which direction we will go. In reading through the Gospel of Mark I noticed how Jesus scolded His disciples, and condemned the religious leaders, for their hardness of heart (Mark 3:5; 6:52; 7:6; 10:5; 16:14). He identified the heart as the source of our sin (Mark 7:15, 21). What Jesus identified as the most important commandment also pointed to our hearts, "AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH." (*Mark 12:30, NASB*). Hence, we want to learn to pay attention to our hearts in relation to the Lord. We are exhorted, "Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life. (*Proverbs 4:23*)

The **first goal** is to establish the habits of **a growing relationship with Christ**, which are sometimes called the disciplines. Paul practiced the disciplines himself. "Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; <sup>27</sup> but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified." (*1 Corinthians 9:26-27*). Paul urged Timothy to do the same, "On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; <sup>8</sup> for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and *also* for the *life to come.*" (*1 Timothy 4:7b-8*). Paul also commended the Colossians, "For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ." (*Colossians 2:5*). Establishing this in the home with children is a primary responsibility of parents (Eph. 6:4). The first two foundational disciplines are daily intake of God's Word and prayer, in what is called devotions, or quiet time. If this isn't part of your daily routine, I urge you to start today!

The **second goal** is to establish **a growing relationship with Christ's church.** There are many New Testament references to the believer's commitment to fellow believers in the body of Christ. For example, "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; <sup>11</sup> not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; <sup>12</sup> rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, <sup>13</sup> contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. (*Romans 12:10-13*). Also often cited is, "and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near." (*Hebrews 10: 24-25*). Regular church attendance, joining a Life Group, and church membership, are three key ways to demonstrate a commitment to grow in Christ's body. Have you made these commitments?

The **third goal** in the first level is **a growing relationship with Christ's mission.** Jesus made the mission of the church clear, make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20). We see the importance of being involved in Christ's mission of disciple-making within the church, and in the world outside the church. The Lord has given every believer at least one spiritual gift (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:7-11; 1 Pet. 4:10-11) to be used in His church. We want to help everyone discern their gifting, and find a meaningful place of service in a ministry at MBC. Our participation in Christ's mission outside the church will be through involvement as a witness and a testimony for Christ. We want to help everyone to grow in these experiences. Our primary ways of helping you are through *Next Steps, Pipeline, and Life Groups.*

There you have it, some simple direction on what to get established in your own life, and how to help others. Make these a priority, and you're aiming at the bullseye of what the Lord desires for your life.

Pastor Dan



# MARCH '20

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Sunday School &amp; Pipeline ~ 9 am</p> <p>Next Steps-Step 4 (s.1) ~ 9 am, LL #100</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite: 4-6 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Fusion: 6-8 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Primitimers Games &amp; Lunch ~ 10 am-1pm, NC</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am-Noon</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, &amp; 3<sup>1/2</sup> yrs.- 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg. ~ 6 pm, NC</p> <p>NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Men's Breakfast 8 am, NC/K</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Vigil ~ 7 pm—midnight, NC</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Sunday School ~ 9 am Pipeline ~ 9 am</p> <p>Next Steps-Step 4 (s.2) ~ 9:00 am, LL #100</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite: 4-6 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Fusion: 6-8 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Elder Board Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am-Noon</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, &amp; 3<sup>1/2</sup> yrs.- 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg. ~ 6 pm, NC</p> <p>NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Women's Meeting ~ 3pm-9 pm, NC/K</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Sunday School &amp; Pipeline ~ 9 am</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite: 4-6 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Fusion: 6-8 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Missions Mtg. ~ 5:30 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am-Noon</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, &amp; 3<sup>1/2</sup> yrs.- 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg ~ 6 pm, NC</p> <p>NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Primitimers Pizza Hut Lunch ~ 11:15 am</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Lord's Table</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Sunday School &amp; Pipeline ~ 9 am</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite: 4-6 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Fusion: 6-8 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Pleasant View Service ~ 9:30 am</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am-Noon</p> <p>Board of Deacons Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, &amp; 3<sup>1/2</sup> yrs.- 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg ~ 6 pm, NC</p> <p>NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Sunday School &amp; Pipeline ~ 9 am</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite: 4-6 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Fusion: 6-8 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am-Noon</p>	<p><b>April 10th at 7 pm – Please join us for a combined Good Friday Service at the United Methodist Church</b></p> <p><b>April 12th at 9:30 am – MBC will worship at the Monroe High School PAC. Refreshments to follow Service.</b></p>			

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 5 Ruth Joy Tuttle
- 7 Carol Botteron
- 9 Kate Baer
- Roger Krauss
- John Jordan
- Joshua Skoumal
- 11 Roxanne Geisler
- Sarah Rische
- Sherry Thomas
- 12 Gabrielle Ils
- Oliver Kuenzi
- 13 Kadin Paske
- Duane Zimmerman
- 14 Karena Figi
- 16 Rylan Kelley
- William Whyte
- 22 Jezaniah Beernink

- 22 Xylia Beernink
- Tim Thomas
- 23 Heidi Rische
- 24 Dorothy Jensen
- Christina Tuttle
- 25 Marissa Hurlbert
- 26 Regan Bartelt
- Erik Haworth
- Craig Signer
- 27 Austin Zettle
- 28 Asher Kuenzi
- Libby Thoman
- 29 Dale Klitzke
- 30 Joan Coppes
- Amanda Ohlrich
- 31 Jenny LaRosh



**Happy anniversary**

- 1 Stan & Sharon Johnson
- 6 Doug & Nancy Larson
- 8 Ron & Sharon Kubly
- 11 Ryan & Joni Proudfit
- Joe & Libby Thoman
- 21 Jacob & Brittney Whyte
- 23 Adam & Grace Anderson
- Ray & Pauline Wyss
- 24 Jim & Deb Hurlbert
- 26 Jesse & Meranda Beernink

*With Deepest Sympathy*

*We would like to offer our sympathy to Jeff & Marie Wunschel. Marie's dad, Milford Gabioud, passed away Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. May God comfort you and bless you with His peace.*



*We would like to extend our sympathy to the families of Mark & Lynn Rische, Peter & Katelin Rische, Carter & Sarah Rische, and Seth Rische. Mark father, Frank, passed away Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. May God's peace give you comfort.*

# NEXT STEPS

**Step 4 (session 1)**  
**"Our Equipping"**

Sunday, March 1st at 9:00 am,  
LL #100

**Step 4 (session 2)**  
**"Our Equipping"**

Sunday, March 8th at 9:00 am,  
LL #100

Sign up at the Welcome Center!



Games & Lunch  
Tuesday, March 3rd  
10 AM-1 PM

Pizza Hut Birthday Lunch:  
Friday, March 20th  
11:15 AM

Congratulations to  
Hannah Larson & Noah Wood  
who were married February 7, 2020!

Their new address is:  
1001 Sundrops PL SE  
Kirtland AFB, NM 87116



SAVE THE DATE  
*National Day of Prayer*  
Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
6:30 am



## Please join us for these APRIL EVENTS!

FRIDAY, April 10th at 7 pm there will be a combined Good Friday Service at the United Methodist Church.

SUNDAY, April 12th Monroe Bible Church will celebrate Easter at the Performing Arts Center, Monroe High School, at 9:30 am.



## Prayer Ministry

I recently went to the *No Regrets Men's Conference*. Every message I heard emphasized prayer. I also listened to several Moody's Founders Week messages this week. Francis Chan emphasized the holiness of God.

Do we realize what a privilege prayer is? We are coming before a Holy God. How do we approach God? Do we come to Him without confessing sin? Keep short accounts with God. Don't let sin pile up in your life. It's hard to stumble when you're on your knees.

Reading God's Word and praying should be very important in our life. Don't let the things of the world crowd out your time spent with God. We become what we fill our mind with, so we should fill our mind with God's Word and spend much time praying to Him.

Ask Him to continually renew your mind through His Word, Romans 12:2. Get in the habit of memorizing Scripture. I need to renew that habit myself. You're never too old to memorize Scripture. I remember memorizing Scripture during my breaks when I worked at the Chevy plant in Janesville. It will bring you joy, happiness, peace, and blessing. Spread the love of Jesus in the area you live. Shine the light of Jesus to a dark, hateful world. There are many people looking for answers to life's questions. Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

Dan Keen

## Healthy Relationships Women's Recovery Workshop

### Find Freedom, Hope, & New Beginnings

- ◆ Have you ever wondered why you always felt "not good enough"?
- ◆ Are you a people pleaser, or act out of guilt or fear, or out of a need to be needed?
- ◆ Do you feel it's your part in relationships to hold things together?
- ◆ Do you ever feel if you don't do it yourself, things will never get done?
- ◆ Do you assume responsibility for others' feelings and behaviors, feel guilty, or worry about how others may respond to you?
- ◆ Are you afraid of being hurt or rejected by others?
- ◆ Do you put others' needs and desires before your own?
- ◆ Do you want to experience more from life, but you don't know how to access intimacy with God and others?

We all grew up with families and experiences that helped us develop our sense of identities, and set "rules" to life which carried with us throughout adulthood. Somewhat like a picture window, these experiences framed us to have unique perspectives of what the world was about, how families function, and what to value in our lives. While growing up with these unique windows of perspective, we only knew what we were taught and automatically assumed it was right. Messages and belief systems began to be imprinted upon us that taught us about ourselves, what to expect from people, how to live our lives, what roles to play, and how to care about the people around us. We also developed our concept of God or our lack of belief in Him. As we approached adulthood, our lives played out on the basis of those acquired beliefs. **The Christian Codependence Recovery Workbook: From Surviving to Significance** by Stephanie Tucker is designed to help you find who God created you to be. Codependence isn't a label, but a mindset that can be overcome. There is healing in Jesus' name.

### *Is This Recovery Workshop for You?*

**What is Codependency?** To the codependent, control, or the lack of it, is central to every aspect of life. Codependency can be defined as an addiction to people, behaviors, or things. It is the fallacy of trying to control inner feelings by controlling people, things, and events on the outside.



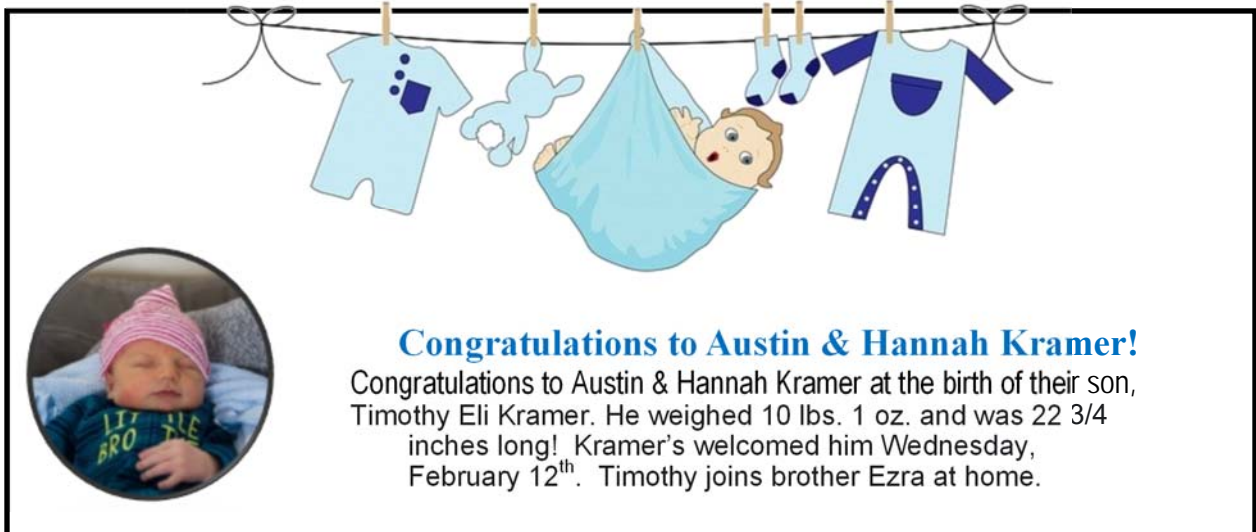
**Come and learn the Biblical solutions to find freedom and hope in healthy relationships!**

### **Group Workshop**

**Date: Mondays, begins May 11, 2020**

**Time: 7-9 pm**

**To find out more or sign up, contact Tracy Signer:  
214-4976 or [tracysnhy7@gmail.com](mailto:tracysnhy7@gmail.com)**



**Congratulations to Austin & Hannah Kramer!**  
Congratulations to Austin & Hannah Kramer at the birth of their son, Timothy Eli Kramer. He weighed 10 lbs. 1 oz. and was 22 3/4 inches long! Kramer's welcomed him Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. Timothy joins brother Ezra at home.



Men's Breakfast  
MARCH 7th  
8 AM  
Nehemiah Center

### Israel Bible Tours Presentation

Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary from 7-8:30 pm. If you are planning on going on the trip, or if you're interested in learning more about the trip or Israel, plan on attending this presentation. Take a look at this link from Israel Bible Tours to learn more: <https://www.facebook.com/events/868117883628750/>

### Women's Ministry

Crossroads Community Church of Monroe would like to invite the ladies of Monroe Bible Church to the "Going Beyond" Simulcast with Priscilla Shirer on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 8:15 am and the event begins at 9 am. Deadline to sign up is Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$45, which includes a boxed lunch and refreshments. The event concludes at 3:45 pm. You may sign up online at [crossroadscn.com/sisters](http://crossroadscn.com/sisters).

For more information, contact Kim at 608-328-3160.

### Library—Looking for a Book Club ?

The MBC Library is sponsoring a women's book club biweekly starting in mid-March. We will be reading "Stop Calling Me Beautiful"

"If you're tired of surface-level teaching and shallow faith, this book will ignite a fire in your soul for a deeper walk with Jesus and draw you into the depths of the Word."  
—Gretchen Saffles, founder of Well-Watered Women

Split into two parts with chapter titles such as: "Why the Instagram Bible Won't Free You", "Skirt Length and Bible Translations: Overcoming Legalism", "Used Goods: Redeeming a Broken Sexuality", and "An Audience of One: Conquering Fear of Man", among others. This book also addresses anxiety, grief, community, and shame, all with the goal to show you a richer faith is accessible.

"Jesus doesn't offer a powerless salvation. He makes your brokenness part of His whole redemption story—if you allow Him to. Don't settle for a feel-good faith. If you want victory over insecurity, fear, shame, and the circumstances you are facing, it's time to embrace Jesus. All of Him."

See the library for more details or email Amanda at [ohrich316@gmail.com](mailto:ohrich316@gmail.com)



## OneMeal Event

Keep Saturday morning May 2nd available for our 5th annual **OneMeal Event** at Monroe Middle School gym. This is a great event for the whole family as we package the ingredients for 20,000 meals in fast moving (more or less) assembly lines. It's a great way to get acquainted with someone you may not know and it's a fun way for your whole family to serve God in a practical way. The meals we pack are sent to hungry children in 3rd world countries who receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ along with food for their tummies! Of course the ingredients and transportation for 20,000 meals are not free, so we will be fundraising to earn the \$5,400 required to hold this event in conjunction with *Kids Around The World* out of Rockford, Illinois. Be watching for more information for this great event.

## Guatemala Mission Team

Your 2020 Guatemala Mission team includes Katie Elgin, Ariel Foesch, Gabi IIs, Rylan Kelley, Wade and Braden Williams, and Duane and Crystal Zimmerman. In Guatemala they will be joined by Oscar Chiquito of Impacting Guatemala Network (IGN), as well as an installation leader from *Kids Around The World* (KATW), and local volunteers from the church receiving the playground. This local church will maintain the playground and use it as a tool for evangelism. When families bring their children to play, members of the church will be there to talk about Jesus and invite them to church. KATW has found this to be a very effective method of evangelism. We provide their church with a colorful safe playground which they would not otherwise have, and they in turn use it as an evangelism tool for their friends and neighbors. Eight MBC folks are physically going to Guatemala, but every one of you is needed to do your part for a successful mission. We need God in this endeavor. Will you please pray this month that God will lead us to affordable safe airfare, that He works out the details for His Glory, and that He begin preparing hearts both here and in Guatemala. Also pray that the team will be of one mind and spirit focused on His work, not on self. The team is currently sending out letters seeking financial support. Please seek what God would have you do in this area as well. There is no amount so small that God cannot use it.

## God At Work Through Your Dollars

Perhaps you were privileged in Sunday School last fall to hear Adam and Emily Holverson share about their work with Muslims through the Jiran Collective in Dearborn, Michigan. Adam is the son of Chris and Laura Holverson. The Missions Ministry has given a one time gift toward their work. A gift was also given to Linda Shannon toward her 6-week mission with Mercy Ships in Senegal beginning this April. If you would like to contribute individually to Linda, please email her at [lds040@yahoo.com](mailto:lds040@yahoo.com). She will send you a link so that you can contribute directly into her account with Mercy Ships.

Crystal Zimmerman,  
Missions Ministry Leader



Does it distress you to live in a society that has so many gods & idols? It troubled the Apostle Paul. We are starting a new study on Sunday **March 8<sup>th</sup>** entitled "Why so

many gods?" In a day in which our neighbors, friends and our families are seeking answers to life, there are a limitless number of gods from which to worship. Over the next couple of months we will look at a handful of the gods that our society is becoming enslaved to. In class we will view and read, video and written articles as well as look at the Biblical texts that our faith holds as the Word of God. Plan to join us as we join Paul when he gave this statement to a confused society in Acts 17:3, "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah..." Join us in the Nehemiah Center at 9:30 am on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Bring a Bible!

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

# Sower and the Seed Anagram



Word List:

explain, farmer, garden, growing, lesson,  
planting, rocks, seeds, thorns, weeds

elnoss \_\_\_\_\_

hnorst \_\_\_\_\_

aeilnpx \_\_\_\_\_

aefmrr \_\_\_\_\_

adegnr \_\_\_\_\_

agilnpt \_\_\_\_\_

deess \_\_\_\_\_

deesw \_\_\_\_\_

ckors \_\_\_\_\_

gginorw \_\_\_\_\_

Kid's Pageer

Color the Picture for Spring!

